

all, to discharge what the United States are in honor and justice bound to pay?

Retrospective laws, to affect rights attacked, ought never to pass; but laws have frequently been enacted to indemnify persons for a conduct, though not strictly legal, but founded on the special circumstances of the case: the safety or honor of a nation or army, where the constitutional authority could not come forward in time. Such was the treaty or system formed by the Duke of Marlborough and the great De Witt.—The Dutch instead of punishing their minister, approved the measure: it eventually tended to the safety and honor of the allies.—The individual risks the step for his country's good—a unanimous government will always sanctify.

We should consider the case upon substantial principles, not according to the letter, not act as the Lacedemonians did to one of their leaders; they fined him for the infringement of the letter of the law, yet for the same act rewarded the hero with a garland.

The fine here ruins the General's estate, and the garland alone, I fear, in this country, will not give his children bread or a becoming education.

In our late contest the common maxims of old nations could not always be adhered to. We were obliged to act according to emergencies. In the case of Gen. Greene, he seems to have intended for the best. He helped to serve and save a country. His merit stands high indeed. I need not repeat the number of his great and glorious actions, which mark him the General and the hero. His name will be handed down with honor to succeeding ages.

Under all circumstances I think his estate should be indemnified. If the committee do not like the whole of the resolution, let there be a division, as proposed by one of the gentlemen from South-Carolina; though I should think we might safely vote for the whole of the resolution, and let the bill make any other provisions which may be thought necessary.

[The subject was further discussed—Mr. Lee, Mr. Barnwell, Gen. Wayne and Mr. Bourne, R.I. speaking in favor of agreeing to the resolutions, and Mr. Macon and Mr. Sturges against the motion.—General Sumpter closed the debate in sundry remarks on extracts from letters wrote by General Greene during the late war, inserted in Gordon's History of the American Revolution, which extracts contain unfavorable reflections on the militia of South-Carolina, & the patriotism of the inhabitants of that state. These reflections, Gen. Sumpter said, were gross calumnies on, and misrepresentations of the character of that people, which he said were invalidated by facts that at that time took place, and by the general tenor of the conduct of South-Carolina throughout the whole course of the war.

General Wayne's resolutions, as before stated, were negatived, and a proposition laid on the table by Mr. Bourne, of Rhode-Island, for taking up the business in a different form.]

MONDAY, FEBRUARY 6.

John Francis Mercer, a new member from Maryland (elected in the room of Mr. Pinckney, who had resigned) appeared, was qualified, and took his seat.

Mr. Baldwin presented a petition from General Jackson, setting forth, that he had not, till a very late period, received notice of the regulations established by the house, for the trial of the contested election for the state of Georgia, and of the time limited for collecting evidence; and that he had agreed with the attorneys of General Wayne to a prolongation of the term, in case it should meet the approbation of the house—and requesting that the house would agree to a postponement of twenty days.

On motion, resolved, that the prayer of the said petition be granted.

Mr. Boudinot presented a petition of the tanners of the town of Newark, in the state of New-Jersey, requesting the interference of Congress, to prevent the inconveniences which persons of their trade are likely to suffer from the operation of Mills, that grind bark for exportation.—Ordered to lie on the table.

The House resolved itself into a committee of the whole—Mr. W. Smith in the chair—and resumed the consideration of the Fishery Bill; and after further debate on the motion for striking out the first section, rose without coming to a decision, reported progress, and had leave to sit again. Adjourned.

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 7.

Sundry petitions were read and referred to the Secretary of War. The petition of the Tanners of Newark, (N. J.) was referred to a select committee.

The Speaker laid before the House a letter from the Secretary of the Treasury, enclosing a report from that officer, pursuant to the orders of the House of the first of November last.

This report among other important particulars states, That the amount subscribed of the domestic debt of the United States, principal and interest, is 31,797,481.22 Unsubscribed residue of said domestic debt, 10,616,604.63

This residue consists of various descriptions of public paper; the Secretary proposes that a further time should be allowed to subscribe the same.

The amount subscribed of the debts of the individual States, is 17,072,334.39

The sum which remains to be subscribed agreeable to the act for assuming the State debts, is 4,427,665.61

21,500,000

To effect a total assumption of all the debts of the several States there remains to be provided for 3,903,362.72

It is proposed in the report that provision should be made for this assumption, at the next session of Congress.

This report was referred to the committee of the whole, and made the order of the day for Monday next.

Mr. Benson, of the committee appointed for the purpose, brought in a bill for the apportionment of representatives among the people of the several States, and making provision for a second enumeration, &c. which was read the first time.

In committee of the whole on the fishery bill; the motion for striking out the first section under discussion—after further debate, the question was put and negatived—32—10 26.

The committee rose and reported progress, and then the House adjourned.

KINGSTON (Jamaica) Nov. 29.

With the most heart felt sorrow, we communicate to the public, the mournful intelligence, that the Right Hon. the Earl of Effingham, our late worthy and much respected Governor, expired between the hours of five and six this morning.

Our readers will recollect that the Lady of this much esteemed and beloved Nobleman died not long since on her passage from Jamaica to New-York.]

The 19th regiment, which lately left this island, was reviewed at Hillsey, fifteen days after its arrival in Great-Britain; and it was then found that there were fifty men above the usual compliment. It is said, that such a circumstance had never before occurred in any part of the Army that had been on a foreign establishment; and that Captain O'Conner, to whose exertions it was owing, had been presented to Major-General Hyde, who promised to make a proper representation to his Majesty.

EXTRACTS FROM AN EUROPEAN PUBLICATION.

NO time ought to be lost in North America to introduce a general attention to the right instruction of youth. Combinations ought to be formed in every county, province and city for that purpose, and small academies, instead of large colleges ought to be promoted, particularly under the clergyman; by which means a brood of learned clergymen will be established on the continent, and every parish will have the seeds of learning carefully sown, which will produce a virtuous and prosperous people hereafter.

The education of the female sex ought to be particularly attended to, and the fatal error avoided, that a woman's chief excellence consists in being able to make a pudding.

On the virtue, diligence, and sufficient learning and sentiment of women, depend the colour and texture of the character of their sons.

FOR THE GAZETTE OF THE UNITED STATES.

MR. FENNO,

I OBSERVE that in your last Gazette, it is said, that "Lord Dorchester" was given as a toast by three of the companies which met in Quebec to celebrate the Constitution; it may have escaped your recollection that Lord Dorchester is Governor General of British America—and as such is in the first list of toasts published in a former paper—consequently was not omitted by either of the companies assembled on that occasion.

Your's, Q.

Philadelphia, February 8.

Extracts from a letter just received from Cape-Francois, December 16.

"We expect 20,000 troops from France, and true it is they are much wanted; the revolted negroes are still in arms, within a few miles of us, and people of color are murdering the whites all over the colony: They have taken sundry principal places, and unless troops arrive soon, this country will be ruined; 253 sugar, and 1600 coffee works have already been burned, and a number of villages.

"A small vessel from Jamaica brings accounts that the martial law had been declared there to keep the negroes quiet."

DECEMBER 18.

"Since writing the above, the revolted slaves have, by two deputies, demanded freedom for their chiefs, and they will make peace; this was refused. A vessel of war arrived yesterday with 130 soldiers, and accounts of 4000 being ready to embark.

"A small schooner from Jamaica brings an account of the whites having armed the negroes against the mulattoes, and that they had killed many of them."

The Brig Hannah, Capt. Latimer, of Philadelphia, arrived at New-York on the evening of 2d Feb. Accounts from Cape-Francois say, the negroes continue burning and destroying the country. The day before the Hannah sailed, viz. Jan. 1st, the Negroes made a desperate attack on Fort Dauphin, the event of which was not known; the produce of the Island of every kind was very scarce, and rising daily in value. Four hundred troops had arrived in a frigate from France and brought the account of 3,000 more troops ready for sailing in two or three days after, this frigate was immediately dispatched to Port-au-Prince, from whence the news arrived, that the remains of that town was depopulated. On the 15th Dec. an engagement began at Port-au-Prince between the Mulattoes and Whites, the event unknown, the shipping of the harbor were under an embargo. St. Marks was in possession of the Mulattoes who had armed a ship and several small vessels which were cruising to intercept vessels going in to Port-au-Prince, they had taken a French sch. loaded with provisions and carried her into St. Marks; the Capt. in attempting to escape was shot, a frigate was sent to cruise off St. Marks in search of the above mentioned vessels.

The prospect which the Managers of the Hospital have in view of extending the building to provide for a greater number of patients, must be highly acceptable to a charitable and humane people.

When it is considered, that the inhabitants of the State are more than double the number they were when the present house was erected, the propriety of enlarging it in proportion to the increase is evidently felt.

On enquiry it will be found, that, at this time, there are in the Hospital not less than forty lunatic patients, and the apartments provided for the accommodation of maniacs, will not admit of more than twenty.

The consequence is, they are either improperly huddled together, or dispersed through the wards to the great injury of others, who are afflicted with acute and dangerous diseases.

However inconvenient this may be, so the fact is, it is not mentioned as any reflection on the gentlemen who superintend the institution; for it is well known, they contribute their money, and much of their time, to relieve the unhappy objects of their care—but how can they effectually do it, unless apartments are provided adequate to the numbers they receive.

It would excite pity in the breast of any spectator, to observe a case which happened the other day (and cases of that kind are not uncommon)—A young lad whose feet were frozen, was in such a condition, that the physicians, on consulting, thought it was needful to take off his legs in order to save his life.

The poor boy lay in the long ward near three maniacs confined in chains, which rattled in his hearing, while the cries of murder, fire, and every alarming noise, was disturbing his repose day and night. To relieve a person in this situation, seems to be almost impossible; yet I am told he is likely to recover, under the great care of the hospital physicians. A due separation of such patients is the object in extending the building, and it is hoped, that all the charitable citizens of Pennsylvania will embrace the views of their benevolent predecessors, who founded the institution on a liberal scale, to relieve the miserable lunatic and sick poor, without partiality or preference to any.

By uniting together in their public and private stations, to espouse the cause of humanity, they could easily complete the building, which hath already been founded, and hitherto conducted, so much to the honor of Pennsylvania.

ORIGINAL COMMUNICATIONS.

If it should be admitted that our frontier people have been the aggressors, it only shews that the duty of a just government would be to offer reparation for the wrong, and to seek peace. But when every offer of peace is rejected, as it has been by the Indians, they become the aggressors. Justice is on the side of the United States.

But in time of war, the law of force subsists. I am not to stand still and let another put me to death, because I have given him reason to be angry. In this state did the government find matters. Mutual injuries and provocations had kindled a predatory war on the frontiers. The President sought peace, and sought it in vain. No government, unless administered by Quakers, would sit still and see its citizens butchered. Congress did what seemed to be right at the time. They had not a war to make, but they had one to carry on. They proposed to make it a short war. It seemed to be the cheapest way to raise a strong force and take a strong post, which probably would bring the Indians to accept peace; that being all that was desired. Had Congress neglected the defence of the frontiers, would they have avoided complaint? Had they trusted to sudden inroads of an irregular force, would not the complainants have said that they were afraid of putting an end to the war? The man in the fable, who was not allowed to drive his ass, nor to ride him, nor to suffer his son to ride him, has suffered perplexity for our benefit and instruction.—There is no measure which will suit every body.—Government must do it's duty, and protect the defenceless, according to the social compact, and trust to the good sense of the citizens for it's justification.

Government is a trust in the hands of the rulers—Doubleless this is true; but it is equally true that a free government is a trust, and a precious one, in the hands of the people. Each individual confides in the reason and good disposition of every other individual, not only that he will obey the laws, but that he will afford his voice, and, if necessary, his strength, to preserve or restore good order. Without this support of the lovers of order, the government of this country would not have so much as the shadow of force. Its life is in every man's hand, and every good man will consider this trust as a sacred one. It is such a man's duty, as well as his interest, to watch for the government which he has assisted to establish—his duty, because he has engaged to do it—and his interest, because a free government is a rare privilege and blessing, and, if lost, not easily to be recovered. It is besides the only mound between him and anarchy—a state in which every man becomes the tyrant of the weak, and the slave of the strong.

In this free country, therefore, the people have cause to be jealous of the attempts made against government. It is being jealous for themselves. It is to be lamented, that so many writers think it their duty to hold up the government of the United States, and the men who are entrusted with the administration of it, in such frightful colors. The desire to gain the praise of doing well, is as natural to men in office as to men in a less conspicuous condition of life.

PRICE CURRENT.—PUBLIC SECURITIES.

FUNDED DEBT.

6 pr. Cents	25 1/2 pr. £.	125 1/2 pr. cent.
3 pr. Cents	15	75 do.
Deferred 6 pr. Cents	15 3/4	76 1/4 do.

UNFUNDED DEBT.

Final Sett. and other Certificates	22 1/2	110 do.
Indents	13 1/4 14	70 do.
Bank Stock—half shares	106	per cent premium.

Joseph Anthony, & Son,

HAVE FOR SALE,

At their Store, No. 5, on Chestnut-Street Wharf,

A FEW puncheons choice old Jamaica Spirits, Grenada, St. Kitts and Nevis Rum, Port-au-Prince, Cape-Francois and Surinam Molasses, Coffee, Cotton, and Pimento, Hylon and Souchong Tea, of the first quality, Cloves, Cassia, and Boston Chocolate, Spermaceti Candles and strained Oil, Salmon and picked Mackerel, Boston Beef and Burlington Pork, Russia and Boston Canvas, A few bales excellent Hops, Myrtle Wax Candles, St. Martin's Salt, Madeira Wine, in pipes, hogsheds and quarter casks, And a few cases old Batavia Arrack.

February 8, 1792.

[CP4W]

Dismal Swamp Canal Company.

PROPOSALS for cutting a Canal from the waters of Elizabeth River in Virginia, to those of Pasquotank in North-Carolina, or for conducting the work, will be received until the ninth day of April next, by Robert Andrews, of Williamsburg; Thomas Newton, jun. and Daniel Bedinger, of Norfolk, in Virginia; by John Cowper, of Gates County; and Benjamin Jones, of Camden County, in North-Carolina. The length of the Canal will be about sixteen miles; the country through which it will pass, is swampy, free from stones, and covered with heavy wood. The Canal is to be thirty-two feet in width, and eight feet at least in depth, below the surface of the earth, and capable of being navigated in dry seasons, by vessels drawing three feet water.

Good security will be required of contractors; and persons making application to be employed as managers, must produce certificates (from characters of respectability) of their qualifications for a business of this kind.

By order of the President and Directors,

WILLIAM A. BAYLEY, Clerk.

Norfolk, January 21, 1792.

(CP9A)